

## Kathleen O'Regan

**From:** Louisiana Gas Association [david@tatmangroup.ccsend.com] on behalf of Louisiana Gas Association [lga@tatmangroup.com]  
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Louisiana Gas Association

Winter  
E-Newsletter  
January 2013

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### Save the Date: 2013 Pipeline Safety Conference

*The conference will enhance performance, promote safety, and broaden public awareness*

The 2013 Pipeline Safety Conference will bring together individuals in the Natural Gas Industry, expert presenters on the federal and state levels, and suppliers to enhance performance, promote safety, and broaden public awareness. This conference, which has been referred to as the "Premier Pipeline Safety Conference," will take place July 22-26, 2013 at the Royal Sonesta Hotel in New Orleans, LA.

Co-hosts for the 2013 Conference include: Arkansas Oil and Gas Commission, Arkansas Public Service Commission, Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Louisiana Gas Association, Mississippi Public Service Commission, New Mexico Public Regulation Commission. and Texas Railroad Commission.

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In 2012, the conference drew more than 500 attendees from 18 states across the United States. This was the largest turnout yet, and the conference continues to grow each year.

The conference is continuing its tradition of offering additional workshops during the conference which attendees will have a chance to learn hands on techniques and participate in roundtable discussions.

The Expo Hall is an impressive showcase of the newest and most exciting products and services in the industry. Exhibitor & Sponsorship opportunities are available now, please visit the LGA website, [www.lagas.org](http://www.lagas.org), to register today.

More information about the 2013 Pipeline Safety Conference can be found by visiting [www.lagas.org](http://www.lagas.org). Individuals interested in learning more may also contact Kathleen O'Regan for more information at (225) 218-6885 or [LGA@tatmangroup.com](mailto:LGA@tatmangroup.com).



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## Pipeline Safety: Communication During Emergency Situations

PHMSA is issuing this Advisory Bulletin to remind operators of gas, hazardous liquid, and liquefied natural gas pipeline facilities that operators should immediately and directly notify the Public Safety Access Point (PSAP) (911 Call Centers) that serves the communities and jurisdictions in which those pipelines are located when there are indications of a pipeline facility emergency. Furthermore, operators should have the ability to immediately contact PSAP(s) along their pipeline routes if there is an indication of a pipeline facility emergency to determine if the PSAP has information which may help the operator confirm an emergency or to provide assistance and information to public safety personnel who may be responding to the event.

[Download the Advisory Bulletin](#)

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## LGA 2012 Annual Operations Conference Highlights

The Annual Operations Conference was held October 29-31, 2012 at the Courtyard Marriott and Houma-Terrebonne Civic Center in Houma, Louisiana.

The 2012 conference included more than 150 attendees. Thank you to all our volunteers, speakers, sponsors and exhibitors that helped make this years conference a huge success!

### What did you miss at the Annual Operations Conference?

LGA's Annual Golf tournament was held Monday at Ellendale Country Club & will host

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**Save the Date**  
**LGA Upcoming Events**

**LGA 1st Quarter Board Meeting**  
January 23, 2013  
Alexandria, LA

**LGA 2nd Quarter Board Meeting**  
April 17, 2013  
New Orleans, LA

**Pipeline Safety Conference**  
July 22-26, 2013  
Royal Sonesta Hotel  
New Orleans, LA

**LGA 3rd Quarter Board Meeting**  
August 14, 2013  
Baton Rouge, LA

**LGA 4th Quarter Board Meeting**

secret in the South. At Ellendale, golfers discovered eighteen holes of championship golf amid a unique setting of cypress trees and Spanish moss covered oaks. Congratulations to the 2012 Winning Team: Clay Vanderlick, Brian Raupp, Don Parker and Mark LeBlanc.

The 5th Annual Michael Hester BBQ was also held on Monday. Eight teams competed at the Courtyard Marriot for the title of LGA Grill-Off Champion. Equipped with some of the most impressive BBQ pits built, the teams spent the day preparing chicken, brisket, and ribs. Congratulations to City of Alexandria who took home the Grand Champion title! A special THANK YOU to Debbie Hester and Katie Hester who were there to celebrate the memory of Michael Hester this year. During the BBQ Reception, they were presented with a beautiful vase in honor of Mike who passed away earlier this year and whom the event is now named in honor of.

Tuesday and Wednesday included a great lineup of speakers that traveled from across the United States to share their knowledge and experiences in the Natural Gas industry. Tuesday included two tracks: Gas Transmission and Management Operations. Miss a presentation during the Conference? Click [HERE](#) to visit the LGA website to download presentations and handouts that speaker s provided.

Tuesday evening, LGA hosted a reception like no other. With entertainment provided by the Treater Band, attendees were able to network with exhibitors, enjoy great music and delicious food. The reception also included LGA's annual Live & Silent Auction. Over the past several years, LGA has awarded scholarships to deserving individuals. This year LGA awarded eleven college students with a \$1,000 scholarship each and honored them at the conference. Through the Live & Silent Auction and Scholarship Raffle, LGA was able to raise over \$8,000. LGA appreciates everyone's support!

To find out more about LGA's upcoming events, please visit our website, [www.LGAs.org](http://www.LGAs.org), or contact the LGA office, 225.218.6885.



## Derrell Isenberg receives LGA's 2012 Hall of Flame Award

Darrell Isenberg, Vice President for Digco Utility Construction and LGA Board Member, received the Louisiana Gas Association's (LGA) 2012 Hall of Flame Award presented during LGA's Annual Operations Conference, October 29-31, in Houma, LA. Isenberg is among an elite group of outstanding individuals that LGA recognizes with this award who have made significant contributions to the success of the organization and its membership.

"Derrell has been active as a board member in all areas but more so on our Scholarship Committee. His efforts have increased our level of support and participation in this cause. Derrell has been an example of an Associate Member that can make a difference. He has always put the interest of the association ahead of his company.", stated Robert Borne, Director and Past President of LGA.

Isenberg has been Vice President of Digco Utility Construction since 2000. Over the years he has been chairman of the Scholarship Committee, responsible for coordinating the auction at the Annual Convention, and involved with other scholarship fundraising efforts. He believes strongly in the youth of the state and country and is passionate about educating young people about the opportunities and benefits of the gas industry.

Before Isenberg's career with Digco Utility Construction, he was employed by Houston Lighting and Power and North Houston Pole Line. He is also an active member of Texas Gas Association (TGA) where he serves on their Board of Directors and is chairman of the TGA Scholarship Committee.

As a member of LGA's Board of Directors, Isenberg has been an active member of the Scholarship Committee and Annual Operations Conference Committee.

December 11, 2013  
Lafayette, LA

## Thank You to our 2012 Annual Operations Conference Sponsors!

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[Visit the LGA Website to learn more about Derrell Isenberg and all of the past honorees.](#) For more information on LGA's Annual Operations Conference and Hall of Flame Award, please visit [www.lagas.org](http://www.lagas.org).



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## Advisory Bulletin: Pipeline Safety: Reporting of Exceedances of Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure

"PHMSA is issuing this Advisory Bulletin to inform owners and operators of gas transmission pipelines that if the pipeline pressure exceeds maximum allowable operating pressure (MAOP) plus the build-up allowed for operation of pressure-limiting or control devices, the owner or operator must report the exceedance to PHMSA on or before the fifth day following the date on which the exceedance occurs. If the pipeline is subject to the regulatory authority of one of PHMSA's State Pipeline Safety Partners, the exceedance must also be reported to the applicable state agency."

[Download the Advisory Bulletin \[Docket No. PHMSA-2012-0308\]](#)

## Employees' Advice Instrumental in New Jersey Gas Restoration Effort

Employees from Entergy's gas distribution business were quickly on the scene after Hurricane Sandy to help New Jersey Natural Gas develop a service restoration plan for 30,000 customers, many of whom faced a bitter winter storm without heat.

In the days after Sandy's landfall, the New Jersey utility reached out to Entergy's gas distribution leaders on conference calls and asked if Entergy could provide subject matter experts to work with their restoration teams.

"They were concerned about water in their gas lines and knew we had experience from dewatering our gas system after Katrina," said Mike Leger, region manager. "We were on a plane the next day."

Leger was joined by Perry Dufrene, manager of business and operations support, and Kelly Bullen, supervisor of gas network construction. Their flight landed in New Jersey on Saturday, Nov. 3, and they spent the next four days working side by side with utility employees to bring gas service back for customers.

Initially, the utility had anticipated major structural damage and flooding and decided to shut off gas to a large portion of the system - around 30,000 customers on barrier islands along the Jersey Shore. Most were in homes that were habitable, but with a nor'easter creeping up the East Coast, the utility was concerned about customers not having heat.

Fortunately, damage assessments revealed that water had not intruded into gas lines. However, the utility still faced the potentially time-consuming process of bringing the system back to service. The Entergy team was able to make suggestions and offer lessons learned for the safe restoration of their system.

Entergy employees also provided advice on damage assessments, sectionalization, meter turn-off and gas service turn-on plans, and tracking and reporting restoration progress to various audiences, including customers and the media.

"The leaders of New Jersey Natural Gas called to express their gratitude to our employees for their commitment and assistance during their crisis," said Dan Wiest, vice president of

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Entergy's gas distribution business. "We knew Mike, Perry and Kelly had the knowledge and experience they needed to put together a safe and thorough restoration plan. I want to thank our employees for their willingness to help, without hesitation, in a time of great need."

## Utilities Work Towards Increased Safety for Natural Gas Infrastructure

### *AGA Supports NTSB Pipeline Safety Efforts*

The American Gas Association today announced its support of the National Transportation Safety Board's (NTSB) efforts toward increasing pipeline safety.

In a press event held today, the NTSB announced its "Most Wanted List," ten issue areas of importance. Pipelines were mentioned in two issues: "Preserve the Integrity of Transportation Infrastructure," which includes oil and gas pipelines as well as our nation's bridges, roads, railroads and waterways; and "Enhance Pipeline Safety," which focuses on pipeline maintenance, emergency response, as well as federal and state oversight.

"Pipeline safety and integrity is the top priority for the natural gas industry, and while delivery of natural gas by pipeline is the safest energy delivery method in the nation, utilities are consistently working on increasing safety further," said AGA President and CEO, Dave McCurdy. "Our members have incredibly innovative programs to help maintain the safety and integrity of natural pipelines and the safe and reliable service they provide to their customers every day."

AGA members operate the 21st century infrastructure necessary for delivering the benefits of natural gas to American homes and businesses safely, reliably and at an affordable price. A recent report by the American Gas Foundation detailed the efforts taking place across the nation to upgrade existing pipeline infrastructure, the status of these efforts and a discussion of alternative methods of recovering the costs associated with the necessary investments.

"Due to its environmental, economic and national security benefits, I have no doubt natural gas will play a significant role in our nation's energy future, but in order to make this a reality, we need to maintain our infrastructure, promote safe practices and sustain reliable service throughout the entire industry," McCurdy continued. "Collaboration is critical, and AGA and its members work closely with key stakeholders, including federal and state government entities, regulators and the public, to help ensure customers can count on the safe and reliable delivery of this clean, domestic and affordable fuel when they need it most."

## Advertising Opportunities

Don't miss out on the chance to promote your business in the Louisiana Gas Association's Quarterly E-Newsletter. As an advertiser, you will receive the opportunity to provide target advertising to business and supply valuable information within your industry. Don't be the only vendor left out. Place an ad today!

### **[Download the E-Newsletter Flyer](#)**

*\*Ad rates and deadlines included in flyer\**

Questions? Contact Kathleen O'Regan at the LGA office:

- Phone: (225) 218-6885
- Toll Free: (866) 921-0923
- Email: [LGA@tatmangroup.com](mailto:LGA@tatmangroup.com)

## Have an interesting article for the LGA E-Newsletter?

Have an interesting article to include in the LGA E-Newsletter? Send suggested articles to Kathleen O'Regan at the LGA office. Your article could appear in the next quarterly

issue!

**Articles may include, but are not limited to:**

1. LGA Member, Company, and/or Employee Recognitions
2. Industry Updates
3. Member special events
4. Company Announcements
5. Consumer Reports

Phone: (225) 218-6885

Toll Free: (866) 921-0923


Email: [LGA@tatmangroup.com](mailto:LGA@tatmangroup.com)

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To learn more about LGA or if you have any questions regarding the articles in this newsletter please contact (225) 218-6885 or visit [www.lagas.com](http://www.lagas.com).

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